

**STEM-REGULATED, PLANT DEFENSE PROMOTER AND USES THEREOF IN  
TISSUE-SPECIFIC EXPRESSION IN MONOCOTS**

**ABSTRACT**

5        The invention is directed to isolated promoters from  
stem-regulated, defense-inducible genes, such as JAS  
promoters. The promoters are useful in expression  
cassettes and expression vectors for the transformation of  
plants. Particularly, the invention provides transgenic  
10      plants of rice and sugarcane that have been modified such  
that expression of a heterologous coding sequence is  
directed by an JAS promoter and is limited to stem tissues  
or may be upregulated by the presence of a defense-inducing  
agent. The invention also discloses methods for producing  
15      the expression vectors and transgenic plants.